

Department of Public Health  
and Human Services

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Section:  
ABLE BODIED ADULTS WITHOUT  
DEPENDENTS

Subject:  
Geographic Waiver

**Supersedes:** FS 802-1 (10/01/06)

**References:** 7 CFR 273.7, 7 CFR 273.24, FS Act section 6 (D)(2)

GENERAL RULE -- On the request of the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), the Secretary of Agriculture may waive the Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) provision for any group of individuals. The Secretary determines if the area meets established labor market criteria to be eligible for the waiver.

It will be the responsibility of DPHHS to annually evaluate the status of each county and reservation to determine areas that do not have a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment to non-exempt individuals. DPHHS will use this information to annually request ABAWD waivers. The areas to be waived from the provision will vary from year to year.

**NOTE:** All counties in Montana were waived from the ABAWD provision from October 1, 2002 through April 30, 2004. Beginning May 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005, after ABAWDs received the initial three months of benefits, continued benefits were granted through the utilization of the 15% exemption allotments.

► Counties who were waived from the ABAWD provision from May 1, 2005 through July 31, 2006 and are no longer waived effective August 1, 2006 are Carbon, Choteau, Daniels, Flathead, Ravalli and Stillwater.

Counties not waived from the ABAWD provision from May 1, 2005 through July 31, 2006 and who are now waived effective August 1, 2006 are Deer Lodge, Fallon, Powell, Prairie and Wibaux.

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## WAIVED COUNTIES

The following counties have been granted waiver of the ABAWD provision August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2007.

<b>Big Horn</b>	<b>Deer Lodge</b>	<b>Fallon</b>	<b>Glacier</b>
<b>Golden Valley</b>	<b>Lake</b>	<b>Liberty</b>	<b>Lincoln</b>
<b>Mineral</b>	<b>Musselshell</b>	<b>Petroleum</b>	<b>Powell</b>
<b>Prairie</b>	<b>Roosevelt</b>	<b>Rosebud</b>	<b>Sanders</b>
<b>Toole</b>	<b>Treasure</b>	<b>Wibaux</b>	

## RESERVATIONS

Individuals residing on the following Indian Reservations have been granted a waiver of the ABAWD provision August 1, 2006 through July 31, 2007 **with the exception of that portion of the Flathead Reservation that is in Missoula County and that portion of Crow Agency that is in Yellowstone County.**

<b>Blackfeet Agency</b>	<b>Crow Agency</b>
<b>Flathead Agency</b>	<b>Fort Belknap Agency</b>
<b>Fort Peck Agency</b>	<b>Northern Cheyenne Agency</b>
<b>Rocky Boy's Agency</b>	

## CASE NOTES

**All** counties must enter a case note when any adult in a food stamp household is an ABAWD and if an ABAWD time-clock exemption is applicable. The case note will be titled 'ABAWD'.

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